

Treasury's Federal Consulting Group
& the Federal Communicators Network

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NEWS

OMB's Program Assessment Tool Wins Government "Oscar"

State and local government programs ran away with the Innovations in American Government Awards presented at the Excellence in Government Conference this week. Only one federal program made the cut—**Program Assessment Rating Tool at the U.S. Office of Management and Budget**. PART assesses every federal program's purpose, design, management and results to determine effectiveness. The uniform assessment is used to improve management and to make informed budget decisions. ([More](#))

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New Generation of Young Feds

Members of a grassroots network of young government professionals created a buzz at the Annual Excellence in Government Conference this week. They led a workshop that gave suggestions to senior managers on how to attract and retain talented young leaders.

EPA's Megan Quinn is the founder and president of Young Government Leaders www.younggovernmentleaders.org. Susan Raymie is co-chair of Young Professionals at State, and Octavia Shulman is founder of Labor's Effective Advocates for Development. The groups have networking social events after hours. The next is Aug. 11 at 5:30 p.m. at Regional Food & Drink, 810 7th St, NW. Metro: Gallery Place/Chinatown.

And just how young is young? It's up to you. Please pass this invitation to young federal employees.

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NARA Redesigns Site

The National Archives website <http://www.archives.gov/> has redesigned its website and it's just in time to help your agency devise an educational program for Constitution Day on or around September 16. As you know, a new law requires federal employees to learn about the Constitution.

Jennifer Nelson, NARA's Web Program Director, sent a few links to help you out:

The Constitution

<http://www.archives.gov/national-archives-experience/charters/constitution.html>

<http://www.archives.gov/historical-docs/document.html?doc=3&title.raw=Constitution%20of%20the%20United%20States>

Teaching with Documents

<http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/constitution-day/>

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U.S. Access Board Has a New Website

It's easy to use and of course it's accessible.

<http://www.access-board.gov/>

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EPA's Updated Public Involvement Website

<http://www.epa.gov/publicinvolvement>

If you haven't looked at EPA's public involvement web pages for a while, now is a good time to visit. The site is updated, has a new look, additional material and new tools to help practitioners improve their efforts and effectiveness. You will still find an introduction to public involvement at EPA, including definitions; case studies; tool kits, manuals and documents; requirements and policies, and links to useful materials of other government and private sector organizations.

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I.C.E.—Chilly Idea Gets Warm Reception

An email is making the rounds on our home and office computers and it offers a good idea.

Following the disaster in London, East Anglian Ambulance Service launched a national "In Case of Emergency (ICE)" campaign. The idea is that you store the word "I C E" in your cell phone address book and enter the number of the person you want to be contacted in case of an emergency. Ambulance and hospital staff will then be able to quickly find and contact your next of kin (or whoever you named). For more than one contact name ICE1, ICE2, ICE3 etc.

Works for me.

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FEATURES

Fast Company.com: Change or Die (May 2005)

http://www.fastcompany.com/magazine/94/open_change-or-die.html

Could you change when change really mattered? Yes, you say? Try again.

FEDTECH May 2005: Under the Hood

http://www.fedtechmagazine.com/article.asp?item_id=37

“Architectural mapping is a very objective tool that identifies all kinds of defects and problem areas.”—Ron Oberbillig, Federal Consulting Group

Radio Interviews with Government Leaders

<http://www.businessofgovernment.org/main/interviews/index.asp>

Natwar M. Gandhi, PhD, Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for the District of Columbia, can be heard on July 30. IBM’s Center for The Business of Government sponsors these interviews and archives the events on its website.

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BOOKS

The One Thing You Need to Know: About Managing, Great Leading, and Sustained Individual Success, by Marcus Buckingham.

The author of the best-selling “First, Break All the Rules” and “Now, Discover Your Strengths,” explains the difference between a manager and a leader and explains how to focus on strengths, not weaknesses. Marcus’s keynote speech was a hit at the Excellence in Government Conference this week.

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Don’t Make Me Think <http://www.stevekrug.com/>

Steve Krug is a master of web usability and his book is a classic. He also does usability workshops and some are coming up—Washington, DC, Sept. 16th, Chicago, Sept. 30, and Seattle, Oct. 21st. Colleague Lou Rosenfeld will be doing his [Information Architecture workshop](#) on the day before in each city.

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Unstuck: A Tool for Yourself, Your Team, and Your World by Keith Yamashita and Sandra Spataro. <http://www.unstuck.com/>

If your project isn’t going anywhere, if your team is sitting on the sidelines...read this book.

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ADDITIONS

Here are recent additions to the Federal Consulting Group’s website:

Positive Transformation of Government, *Appreciative Inquiry Practioner*

<http://www.fcg.gov/pdfs/May2005JournalofAI.pdf>

Site Analytics Fact Sheet

<http://www.fcg.gov/pdfs/fcg-maxamine-v3.pdf>

Winning Practices for Government Contact Centers: Lessons Learned in 2004 That Your Agency Can Use Right Now, By Daryl L. Covey

http://www.fcg.gov/winning_practices.html

Develop an Effective Communications Strategy: 45 Tips in 45

Minutes http://www.fcg.gov/presentations/outreach_project_0712.ppt

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TRAINING

Information Architect Thom Haller <http://www.thomhaller.com/> presents

his second workshop on Structuring Web Content sponsored by the Federal Consulting Group and the Federal Communicators Network. It's free. The date is Aug. 15 and space is limited.

http://www.fcg.gov/news_releases/07112005.html

The Information Resources Management College Offers Timely, Future-Focused Learning

The Information Resources Management College of the National Defense University at Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, DC, is a global learning community for government's most promising information leaders. Its programs focus on strategic leader development through current, timely, and future-focused learning.

The College's programs, in residence and online, conveniently fit the demanding schedules of DoD and civilian agency managers. Graduate-level programs facilitate learning and leadership related to the roles of the Chief Information Officer, Chief Information Security Officer/Information Assurance, Enterprise Architecture, IT Project Management, and Organizational Transformation associated with information operations, e-government, the mission and business of government, and domestic preparedness. For more information see www.ndu.edu/irmc

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SUBMISSIONS

Submit Your agency News

Send an email to pat.wood@ots.treas.gov. We accept vendor events if they are co-sponsored by a government agency or if government employees help plan the training and/or appear on the program.

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